

Ginnie Sebastian Storage, President General
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
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Ms. Storage:

The _____ chapter has adopted the following resolution, which calls for a special meeting in accordance with Article VIII, Section 7 of the Bylaws:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, there is an inherent need for the will of the membership to be reflected accurately in the application of the Bylaws of The Society;

Whereas, it is the duty of the membership to ensure that the true meaning of the Bylaws is properly understood and that the rules are properly applied consistently throughout The Society;

Whereas, the ultimate authority to determine the proper meaning and interpretation of the Bylaws is vested solely in the membership of The Society, as assembled in a membership meeting;

Whereas, the meaning and application of the Bylaws of The Society cannot be changed without the consent of the membership;

Whereas, the holding of a Special Meeting is the appropriate course of action to allow the membership to determine the true meaning and intent of its own Bylaws and to express its will through orderly debate and a free and fair vote inside a meeting; and

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order provides that "A **special meeting** (or a called meeting) is **a separate session** of a society held at a time different from that of any regular meeting, and convened only to consider one or more items of business specified in the call of the meeting. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting, clearly and specifically describing the subject matter of the motions or items of business to be brought up, **must be sent to all members** a reasonable number of days in advance."

Whereas, the Bylaws of DAR specifically authorize the chapters to compel a Special Meeting; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, in accordance with Article VIII, Section 7 of the Bylaws, we hereby join and sign on to the call for a Special Meeting of the National Society previously submitted by chapters that have adopted the same Resolution and whose number has exceeded the requirement established by the Bylaws, and request that a Special Meeting of the National Society be held as soon as is practicable, and on a date prior to the opening of 136th Continental Congress, for the purpose of considering and adopting the following Resolution:

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order, the adopted parliamentary authority of DAR, prescribes that the interpretation of a bylaw provision "should be in accordance with the intention of the society at the time the bylaw was adopted;"

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order provides that, in the case of interpreting a bylaw provision, "a majority vote is all that is required to decide the question;"

Whereas, *Robert's Rules of Order* provides that "When the meaning is clear, however, the society, even by a unanimous vote, cannot change that meaning except by amending its bylaws;"

Whereas, the eligibility requirement that a member of DAR must be a woman was established in the Constitution and Bylaws of DAR, adopted in 1890;

Whereas, DAR was incorporated by the Fifty-fourth Congress of the United States of America on February 20, 1896; and

Whereas, *Robert's Rules of Order* provides that "... the society's assembly can give the board instructions which it must carry out ..." and "... no action of the board can alter or conflict with any decision made by the assembly of the society..." ;" now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That in Article III, Section 1 of the Bylaws, the term "woman" shall be understood to clearly mean a woman who was born female, and therefore, individuals who were born male shall not be eligible for membership; transgender women shall not be eligible for membership; and men who have their birth certificates changed from male to female shall not be eligible for membership;

Resolved, That the National Board of Management, the Executive Committee, the Officers, and all other individuals and bodies acting on behalf of DAR shall immediately adhere to this understanding of the Bylaws in regard to the meaning of the word "woman" and in regard to the application of the Bylaws;

Resolved, That the National Board of Management, the Executive Committee, the Officers, and all other individuals and bodies acting on behalf of DAR shall be prohibited from applying any different meaning to the word "woman" in regard to applying the rules set forth in the Bylaws; and

Resolved, That anywhere the term "woman" appears in the rules of DAR it shall be understood to have the same clear meaning as set forth in the first resolved clause of this resolution, and the application of any rule shall be in accordance with this understanding of the meaning of the word "woman."

Thank you for your attention in this matter. We respectfully remind you of the President General's duty under the bylaws to call a Special Meeting, citing Article VIII, Section 7, which states, "A special meeting also shall be called by the President General upon the written request of thirty or more chapters in at least ten states. Not less than thirty days' notice of a special meeting shall be given and only that business specified in the call may be transacted." We look forward to the official call of the Special Meeting.

Best regards,

Name:
Title:
Chapter Name:
State:
Date: